

Kentucky Division of Emergency Management

Heavy Rains Hit Pike County, One Dead One Missing

For Immediate Release

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FRANKFORT, Ky. (July 18, 2010) – At least one death has been confirmed and another person still missing after heavy rains hit Pike County in eastern Kentucky late last night.


Pike County officials declared a local State of Emergency, as rescue workers evacuated residents along creeks and water drainages. Areas hit the hardest included Raccoon Creek, Chole Creek, Marrowbone Creek, Red Creek, Pompey Creek, John's Creek. Along Harless Creek five people were reported missing, but later found safe.

A mobile home park along Raccoon Creek has reported several homes damaged or destroyed and damage assessments will be ongoing throughout the day in Pike County. Much of the county's water system received damage and it may be several days before water is restored.


As the water receded search crews are conducting door to door wellness checks within the impacted areas.

Shelters have been opened at Pike County Central High School, Cedar Bottom Church, Pikeville Methodist Church and a special medical needs shelter is open at the East KY Expo Center.

The Commonwealth Emergency Operation Center (CEOC) located in Frankfort at Boone National Guard Center, and staffed by Kentucky Division of Emergency Management (KYEM), remains activated at Level II in support of the situation. KYEM Director, John Heltzel, has been in constant communication with the governor's office and Governor Beshear has directed KYEM to provide any assistance requested by Pike County.

Kentuckians are encouraged to monitor river and streams crests for their areas and heed warnings or evacuation orders from local officials. Do not drive through or wade through any water, no matter if just a few inches. [STOP, TURN AROUND – DON'T DROWN!](#) 

Do not attempt to enter flooded structures unless a certified electrician has shut the power off. For additional information and safety tips, please visit KyEM's web site at www.kyem.ky.gov.

Be aware of toxic or hazardous wastes associated with flood waters. For additional information on health safety tips and flood water clean-up, please visit the Department for Public Health's website at www.chfs.ky.gov/dph/. 

For statewide road conditions please visit www.511.ky.gov . 

For local information and or shelter locations, please contact your local emergency management office. Follow this link for assistance: <http://www.kyem.ky.gov/about/countyemdirectors.htm> .

For river levels and expected crests, visit <http://water.weather.gov/ahps/>  and click on the area you wish to observe.